

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 SY-04 USSS-00 SCS-03

SCA-01 SCCT-02 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03

SS-20 NSC-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /111 W

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O P 071058Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8740

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2066

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS CASC ET US

SUBJ: TENNECO FOUR

REF: KHARTOUM 2060

1. AT 1930 HOURS SEPT 6 EMBOFF ARRANGED REVIEW OF PRESENT STATUS TENNECO CAPTIVES. REVIEW TOOK PLACE AT EXCELSIOR HOTEL AND INCLUDED KHALIFA, WILSON, BURGHER, BOGAN, GRAHAM AND

EMBOFF. AS RESULT OF DISCUSSION WITH KHALIFA, WILSON AND OTHERTENNECO REPS BELIEVE ELF IS ACTUALLY IN PROCESS OF RELEASEING CAPTIVES AND DELAY IS CAUSED BY COMBINATION OF CLIMATIC AND TERRAIN DIFICULTIES, SLOW PACE CAUSED BY EVASIVE TACTICS AND INABILITY OF SOME CAPTIVES TO MAINTAIN PACE SET BY ELF.

2. NEW INFORMATION FROM KHALIFA INCLUDED A REPORT HE RECEIVED THAT CAPTORS ACTUALLY HOLDING TENNECO GROUP RECEIVED WORD TO BRING PRISONERS TO BORDER ONLY ON 31 AUGUST.

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3. ANOTHER OF KHALIFA'S INFORMANTS WHO RECENTLY

RETURNED FROM ERITREA STATED THAT ABDULLAH IDRIS,
THE FIELD COMMANDER OF THE ELF
GENERAL COMMAND, TOLD HIM THE PRISONERS ARE ON THE
WAY TO THE BORDER FOR RELEASE. THIS CONFIRMED TO
KHALIFA THAT THE ELF HEIRARCHY IN ERITREA HAS AGREED
TO RELEASE THE PRISONERS.

4. WILSON SUGGESTED THAT KHALIFA ASK ZEIN TO SEND A
RUNNER INTO ERITREA TO FIND OUT THE PRECISE PROGRESS
OF THE TENNECO CAPTORS AND CAPTIVES AND REPORT BACK
TO ZEIN. KHALIFA PROMISED TO DO SO.

5. AT 1100 HOURS SEPTEMBER 7 KHALIFA TOLD EMBOFF THAT
ZEIN HAD BEEN TOLD TO DISPATCH A RUNNER ACROSS THE BORDER.
THERE WAS NO FURTHER NEWS, AS OF 1230 HRS 7 SEPTEMBER.
BERLIND

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005